

Minutes of ESD Safety Committee Meeting 4/9/2008

Attending: Todd Wood, Jil Geller, Tim Kneafsey, Seiji Nakagawa, Vivi Fissekidou, Maryann Villavert

- 2 non-recordable injuries:
 1. One ergo in an office, may become recordable, employee recorded new evaluation by M. White, will take 6 wks for furniture, cause apparently cumulative trauma. Employee had regular ergo evaluations in past
 2. cut glass – first aid
- ERGO incident and the new ERGO on line assessment: Many instances of cumulative trauma – online assessment should help identify highest risk employees. New employee classified as “in red” per online assessment. Need to emphasize importance of taking the assessment to new employees – have them do this as one of their first activities when starting employment.
- Liquid nitrogen use in 70/70A: employee requested safer dispenser for LN from large dewars. Current ones in use are short, and require the user to hold the smaller dewar while filling – unsafe and not ergonomic. Good example of hose that extends to floor with porous frit at end at ALS. Maybe could be made in shops. Jil will reply to employee and Yvette about this, Tim has hose he can loan to employee.
- CMS assessment: A few ESD labs were reviewed by Lee Aleksich and others, using bar code scanner. Poor results indicate that many labs may not have reconciled/current/accurate inventories, and need to use the scanner to check/update. Lee can train and loan the scanner to anyone in the division. This would be a good task for a summer student, or require the LLPIs to designate someone to do this for their labs.
- Job Hazard Analysis: First to do this was Jim Bishop. Raised question of safety glasses requirement in labs. Safety glasses can be cited as required PPE in the JHA.
- ESD safety glasses requirement in labs isn’t being followed consistently. Discussed that the written policy should be edited to reflect ability for LLPI to allow exceptions in areas of desk-work, and absence of chemicals, risk of flying parts, and soldering. Division Director needs to enforce the policy – Vivi planning to meet w/ Don on this.

Vivi Fissekidou Discussed on the 4/14/08 ES Division Council: Don will keep and enforce requirement and re-evaluate in the future.
- “Near-miss events”: Don asked if ESD management promotes active reporting of near miss events (an unplanned event that did not result in injury, illness, or damage but had the potential to do so). From the FY06 self Assessment: “Division employees report injuries and near miss events and the Division performs thorough review of all staff injuries, accidents, and near-miss events including analysis of conditions that led to injury. Corrective actions to prevent recurrence are identified and effectively implemented.” We agreed that most staff are unaware of this requirement, and that we need to educate ourselves and staff about a clear definition, and concrete examples. Vivi will raise this at the next Division Safety Coordinators meeting.

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Vivi Fissekidou: Discussed on the 4/11/08 Safety Coordinators' meeting – the issue was discussed on the DD meeting; no clear guidance to the staff as how to report the near miss events. An example of a near miss was cited: an ALS contractor working on an unplugged venting machine and was stopped by a number of ALS staff. Don Lucas, EH&S Deputy director, suggested that the ALS director discusses it at the DD meeting.

Also discussed on the 4/14/08 ES Division Council.

- Defibrillators and overall EH&S response: Concerns were raised about the absence of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in LBNL buildings, and that they would offer a better chance of survival than waiting for the emergency staff to arrive. Vivi discussed this w/ EH&S, and Dr. Lichty, the Director of Health Services at the Lab, would like to have a discussion group. Dr. Lichty's policy recommendation, which was adopted by the Lab, is that the Lab should not have AEDs in LBNL buildings, and that personnel can rely on the medical emergency response teams for unconscious persons. We wondered about the policy at other facilities, and if a second opinion could be solicited. Vivi will solicit ESD staff for interest in participating in the discussion group, and also invite Dr. Lichty to ESD's town hall meeting next quarter.
- Safety Committee Structure: Weyland Wong (safety coordinator for the Engineering Division, and chair of division safety coordinators committee) suggested to Vivi that higher level/senior management support is needed on ESD safety committee. Given that Vivi has discussions w/ division council once a month and Vivi reports to Don with lists of issues needing his input/approval, no complaints of the lack of information disseminated between the Division Safety Coordinator and the Division Council have been noted.

The division director is notified of the committee meetings and has been attending as his schedule permits. The division safety committee feels that more involvement of Division management in the committee activity (including membership) should be encouraged. For example, only a few department heads attended the JHA roll-out presentation by John Seabury."

- Committee minutes requirements: after critical items, the next agenda item at our meetings should be to approve the previous meeting's minutes. We approved the minutes of the January, February and March safety committee meetings.
- Vivi to meet with Don: Regarding 1) what issues need Don's strong support (eg. safety glasses), and 2) Structure of the Safety Committee.

Vivi Fissekidou The safety glasses were discussed on the 4/14/08 ES Division Council: Don will keep and enforce requirement and re-evaluate in the future. The e-mail to ESD supervisors with the listing of all incomplete training was also discussed. I said that supervisors took some actions when they realized that the ESD director and council receive the incomplete training listing quarterly. I asked if they found the approach too aggressive and should I tone it down but nobody responded.

The structure of the safety committee was discussed and we will need more time to evaluate the issue. I will keep you updated.

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- Lab SRC Update: **Traffic:** There are currently no funds to upgrade major traffic-related structures at the lab. Typically, these require 5 to 10 years to implement. Traffic-related changes needed to reduce high-risk locations should be put into the CATS system. Currently, a traffic light is being considered at the Grizzly Peak Gate. **Machine Guarding:** The question has arisen of whether machine guards are used. Many look new. **Tool Use:** The SRC is looking into what training would be needed for employees to use power tools in the labs. One issue in particular is welding. Low and high-risk categories have been considered, but defining them is not clear. Following defining the categories, clarifying criteria for use (training) needs to be performed, and people need to be appointed as approvers.

The meeting was adjourned.